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table anatomy either the wall or the living contents of the so-called cell must be renamed, he would retain the name cell for the former, designating the cytoplasm and nucleus as a corpuscle, believing that in this way botanical and zoological terminology may be brought into harmony most readily.

**The Septate Leaves of Dicotyledonous Plants.** — M. John Briquet, in the *Bulletin of the Botanical Laboratory of the University of Geneva*, for June, 1897, gives an interesting summary of his recent studies on certain of the plants possessing the foliar septa first recorded by Guettard in 1747, and for many monocotyledonous genera and the single dicotyledonous genus Villarsa, examined in detail by Duval-Jouve in 1873. To these M. Briquet now adds species of the umbelliferous genera *Ottoa*, *Crantzia*, and *Tiedemannia*. With Duval-Jouve, he concludes that the diaphragms or septa serve to increase considerably the solidity of construction of the leaf without interfering with the free circulation of gases in its intercellular spaces. While the majority of plants possessing these structures are aquatic or subaquatic, *Tiedemannia teretifolia* is shown to be amphibious and to possess admirable adaptations to existence during alternating periods of extreme wet and drought. T.

**The Photosynthetic Organs of Asparageæ.** — Though, as is too frequently the case with students of vegetable anatomy, Professor Reinke has no thought of a monograph of this interesting group, his recent study of the cladodia of *Asparagus*, *Ruscus*, *Danæ*, and *Semele*<sup>1</sup> contains much that is of interest to the systematist, and justifies the conclusion that these aberrant genera are really derivatives of the leafy Siliaceæ. T.

**New Hardy Nymphæas.** — In the *Revue Horticole*, of Paris, for Nov. 16, 1897, M. André describes three new hardy Nymphæas of the odorata type, — *N. gloriosa*, *N. Ellisiana*, and *N. odorata exquisita*, — which have recently originated as seedlings under the hands of M. Latour-Marliac, whose beautiful seedlings and hybrids of American pond lilies are now known wherever this attractive class of aquatics is cultivated. T.

**Flora of Africa.** — To the many recent publications on the African flora is now added a list in which the botanists of the Brussels Garden propose to publish rapidly the new species and interesting facts brought out in the examination of the collections they are now

<sup>1</sup> Reinke, Die Assimilationsorgane der Asparageen. Eine kritische Studie zur Entwicklungslehre. *Jahrbücher f. wiss. Bot.*, Bd. xxxi, Heft 2, 207-272, f. 26.